

Selkirk County Council

REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FOR THE

Year 1956

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FOR THE

Year 1956

STAFF

At 31st December, 1956

Jointly with Roxburgh County Council and Small Burgh Authorities

Medical Officer of Health—A. F. MCCOUBREY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers—L. F. HOWITT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

JOAN CAMPSIE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Jointly with Roxburgh County Council

County Sanitary Inspector—A. I. FRASER.

District Sanitary Inspectors—A. MCKINNON.

J. G. WATSON.

Senior Dental Officer—Mrs C. E. GRIEVE, L.D.S.

Assistant Dental Officers—Dr H. N. MACLACHLAN, L.D.S.

Vacant.

County Nursing Superintendent—Miss D. G. DUNCAN.

Milk Officer—Miss D. ROBERTSON.

Small Burgh Authorities

Galashiels—R. G. BRUCE, Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

Selkirk—T. BEATTIE, F.I.A.A., Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

Clerical

Clerical Staff of Health Department of Roxburgh County Council.

Changes in Staff

Mr C. M. URQUHART, L.D.S., Assistant Dental Officer—Resigned
9/7/56.

To

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR SCOTLAND AND THE
CONVENER AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNTY
OF SELKIRK

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report for 1956.

General Statistics

Of the 327 deaths in the County, 49 per cent. were over the age of 75 and almost 10 per cent. over 85 years of age. Cancer accounted for 13 per cent. of all deaths. The death rate for children aged less than 1 year reached a record low level of 18 per 1,000 live births. There was only 1 death from tuberculosis.

Care of Mothers and Young Children

The attendances at Child Welfare Clinics, with the exception of children under 1 year, improved during the year. Visits paid by Health Visitors increased by 20 per cent. The establishment of District Nurses in Galashiels Burgh was increased by one during the year. This addition will enable much more attention to be paid to school children in the County.

The Local Authority were without the services of a Dental Officer for the greater part of the year, the vacant post being filled in November. Even with a Dental Officer, the requirements of the School Dental Service make it impossible to undertake our responsibilities towards expectant mothers and pre-school children with present staff.

Little action has been required by District Nurses in the field of the prevention of the break up of families; the occasional problem family occupies much more of their time.

11,018 tins of National Dried Milk, 1,848 bottles of cod liver oil, 1,001 packets of vitamin tablets and 13,913 bottles of orange juice were distributed by Welfare Foods distributors. Compared with 1955 the up-take of National Dried Milk showed an increase of 1,418 tins, cod liver oil a decrease of 236 bottles, vitamins a decrease of 18 packets and orange juice an increase of 1,424 bottles. I gladly take this opportunity to thank most sincerely the distributors of Welfare Foods in the County for their willing help and co-operation throughout the year.

Vaccination and Immunisation

Medical Officers of the Department and District Nurses take every opportunity of advising mothers of the need for vaccination of their babies against smallpox and a leaflet advising vaccination is sent from the Health Department to parents one month after the birth of the child. Of the 330 children born in 1956 belonging to the County, only 116 (35 per cent.) had been notified as vaccinated by the end of the year.

Every effort was made by members of the Health Department staff to encourage early immunisation against diphtheria. Advantage was taken of the offer of publicity in the local press by the Scottish Information Office. During the year, 341 children were fully immunised and 362 received a "booster" dose; 231 of the fully immunised children were attended by their own practitioner while 315 of the "booster" doses were given by Medical Officers of the Health Department. One index of the state of immunisation was shown in the school medical report for the year ended 31st July, 1956. Of all school entrants during the year 90 per cent. had been immunised. For the tenth year in succession no case of diphtheria has been notified.

A notable development in the Local Authority Health Services was the beginning of the immunisation of children against anterior poliomyelitis. In the first instance, parents of children born in the years 1947-1954 inclusive were invited to consent to the vaccination of their children. In this age group 1,382 consents to vaccination were received. There is no doubt that the unfortunate occurrence in the United States of America adversely influenced parents in this country. When vaccination had been proceeding for some months with no unfortunate effects, there was a fresh rush of enquiries from parents about the availability of vaccination. I have no doubt that in time the procedure will be accepted as willingly as that for diphtheria. By the end of the year 241 children had been completely vaccinated and six had received the first vaccination only.

Prevention of Illness—Care and After-care

Twenty new cases of tuberculosis were notified. Of these 15 were pulmonary and 5 non-pulmonary. The number of notifications is three more than that notified in 1955.

B.C.G. vaccination of children of school leaving age commenced and at the end of the year 31 such children had been vaccinated.

A Mass Radiography Unit visited the County during November and December. 4,736 people submitted themselves for X-ray. From this number 5 cases of tuberculosis were discovered and 42 were referred to their own doctor for varying conditions.

As far as is known, there are 28 cases of epilepsy in the County. Of these, 11 are adults, 16 children of school age and one a pre-school child.

There are 17 known cases of cerebral palsy in the County.

A chiropody service for old people continued to be provided by the British Red Cross Society at regular clinics in Selkirk and Galashiels. In addition, attendance was given at the various Old People's Homes in the County.

A lecturer from the Scottish Council for Health Education visited the County from 1st to 5th May. Lectures were given to pre-formed school audiences during the day and to adult audiences in the evening.

In the early spring a "Clean Foods" exhibition and campaign was conducted in the Burghs of Selkirk and Galashiels. In connection with the campaign a competition for school children was organised and very satisfactory numbers of entries were received. Although public attendances were disappointing, there is clear evidence that the widespread press publicity given to food poisoning outbreaks has made the public more "Clean Food" conscious than they have hitherto been.

Control of Infectious Disease

In the early part of the year a small outbreak of paratyphoid B fever occurred in Galashiels. Only three cases were confirmed but enquiries covered a number of patients who were notified as doubtful cases. Investigation showed that all had eaten cakes obtained from one shop in the town. A sample of tinned dried Chinese eggs was taken for bacteriological examination. No organism of the enteric group was isolated but the bacteriologist reported the finding of *Salmonella-Thompson*.


I would again express my thanks to the Chairman of the Health Committee and members of the County Council for their support of the work of the Department. I would also express my appreciation of the co-operation of the general practitioners throughout the County and of the continued help given by the Group Medical Superintendent and staff of the Borders Hospitals Board of Management. To the heads of other Departments and my own staff I willingly record my thanks for their help and support at all times.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. F. MCCOUBREY,

Medical Officer of Health.



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VITAL STATISTICS

Population (estimated to middle of 1956)

Landward	3,113
Burghs—					
Galashiels	12,235
Selkirk	5,823
					<hr/> 18,058
					<hr/> 21,171

Births.—The births corrected for transfers were:—

	Total	Male	Female	Illegitimate
Landward	49	22	27	—
Burghs—				
Galashiels	193	116	77	6
Selkirk	88	48	40	3
	<hr/> 330	<hr/> 186	<hr/> 144	<hr/> 9

The birth rate of 15·6 is 1·3 higher than the figure recorded in 1955. The rate for Scotland was 18·5 per thousand of the population.

Illegitimate births amounted to 2·7 per cent. of the total.

The number of Still-Births was 8 giving a rate of 24 per 1,000 total births (including still-births), the rate for Scotland as a whole being the same.

Marriages.—One hundred and sixty marriages were registered during the year, giving a marriage rate of 7·6 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

Deaths.—The number of deaths corrected for transfers, was 327, of which 138 were of men and 189 of women. The death rate adjusted for age and sex distribution, was 12·2 per thousand of the population. The rate for Scotland was 12·0.

The numbers, causes and age-groups of death are shown in the following tables on pages 8 and 9.

Infantile Mortality.—The number of deaths of children aged less than one year was 6 all of whom were aged less than four weeks. The infant mortality rate was 18 per 1,000 live births, the rate for Scotland being 29.

1956—Causes of Death	All Ages. Both Sexes	M.	F.	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks	1—	5—	10—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—	85 and over
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, other forms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis and its sequelae	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery, all forms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infectious and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasms	43	19	24	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	6	7	14	11	3
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Diabetes mellitus	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Anaemias	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Other general diseases	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	1
Vascular lesions affecting central nervous system	66	22	44	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	11	16	27	7
Nonmeningococcal meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases of nervous system	5	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	—
Rheumatic fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	—
Arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease	115	47	68	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	13	25	56	12
Other disease of heart	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Hypertension with heart disease	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Hypertension without heart disease	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Other circulatory disease	13	8	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	7	—
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (except of new born)	6	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	3	—
Carry forward	268	110	158	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	5	20	36	72	107	24

1956—Causes of Death	All Ages. Both Sexes.	M. F.	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks	1—	5—	10—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—	85 and over
Brought forward	268	110 158	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	5	20	36	72	107	24
Bronchitis	13	8 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	8	—
Other respiratory diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	3 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—
Appendicitis	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Gastritis and duodenitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea (except of newborn)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of liver	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases of liver	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Other digestive diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Other diseases of genito urinary system	3	2 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—
Puerperal sepsis including post abortive sepsis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other puerperal causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases of skin and organs of locomotion	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Congenital malformations	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Birth injuries, post natal asphyxia and atelectasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia of newborn	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea of newborn	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infections of the newborn	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy	3	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	7
Senility	13	2 11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Causes ill-defined and unknown	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Suicide	4	2 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other road transport accidents	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other violence	5	2 3	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—
	327	138 189	6	—	2	1	1	3	1	6	22	43	80	130	32

The numbers, causes and age-groups of infantile deaths are shown in the following table:—

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Cause of Death	No. of Deaths	M.	F.	Death Rate per 1000 Births	Age Groups	
					under 4 weeks	4 weeks — 1 year
Congenital malformations	2	2	—	6·06	2	—
Diarrhoea of new-born	1	—	1	3·03	1	—
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy	3	3	—	9·09	3	—
Totals	6	5	1	—	6	—
Death Rate per 1,000 Births	—	—	—	18	18·18	—

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1947

I. Care of Mothers and Young Children.

(1) Ante-natal and post-natal service.

No ante-natal or post-natal clinics are provided by the Local Authority.

(2) Child Welfare Clinics.

Clinics are in operation at Sime Place, Galashiels (twice weekly), at Thornfield, Selkirk (weekly), and at Heatherlie Church Hall, Selkirk (fortnightly). Attendances during the year are shown in the following table:—

(1)	No. of clinics provided at end of year	No. of children attending the clinics during year and who on the date of their first attendance were:		Total No. of attendances made during year by children who at the time of attendance were:	
		Under 1 year of age (3)	Over 1 year of age (4)	Under 1 year of age (5)	Over 1 year of age (6)
Local Health Authority Clinics	3	165	103	2340	691
Clinics provided by Voluntary Organisations	—	—	—	—	—

(3) Dental Care.

(1)	No. inspected by Dental Officers during the year (2)	No. found to require treatment during the year (3)	No. accepting treatment during the year (4)	No. actually treated by Dental Officers during the year (5)
Expectant Mothers	—	—	—	—
Nursing Mothers	—	—	—	—
Pre-school Children	3	3	3	3

(4) Mother and Baby Homes—Nil.

(5) Day Nurseries.

Nurseries provided by Firms of Manufacturers.

(See table on page 12).

(6) Residential Nurseries and Children's Homes provided as part of Authority's arrangements under Section 22 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947—Nil.

(7) Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948.

Details of work done by the Authority during the year :—

(1)	No. of applications received. (2)	No. of Certificates				No. of children being cared for at the end of year. (7)	No. of inspections made. (8)	No. of cases in which no inspection made. (9)
		Issued. (3)	Refused. (4)	Cancelled. (5)	In force at end of year. (6)			
Nursery Premises	—	—	—	—	1	12	—	—
Child-minders	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

2. Midwifery.

The following is a statistical record of the work carried out under Section 23 of the Act.

(i) Total No. of births occurring in the area during year—that is before correction for mother's residence:—

Live Births, 388 Still Births, 7 Total, 395

(ii) Total No. of births in (i) occurring in institutions (including private maternity homes), 386.

Nurseries Provided by Firms of Manufacturers

(1) Nurseries provided by Firms of Manufacturers— Gibson & Lumgair, Ltd., St. Mary's Mill, Selkirk	State whether approved for training (2)	No. of approved places		No. of children on register at end of year		Average daily attendances during year		Waiting lists at end of year	
		0-2 (3)	2-5 (4)	0-2 (5)	2-5 (6)	0-2 (7)	2-5 (8)	0-2 (9)	2-5 (10)
	No	2	10	1	11	1	9	—	—

(iii) No. of births in (i) occurring at home—Live, 9; Still, 0; Total, 9. It will be noted that fully 97 per cent. of all births in the area during the year took place in Institutions.

(iv) No. of births in (iii) classified to show nature of attendance at birth:—

(1)	Cases dealt with under Section 23(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947			Other domiciliary cases			Total
	Doctor engaged and present at confinement (2)	Doctor engaged and not present at confinement (3)	Midwife alone (no doctor engaged) (4)	Doctor and midwife engaged (5)	Midwife alone (no doctor engaged) (6)	Without doctor or midwife (7)	
(a) Midwives employed by the Authority (including those engaged on a fee-per-case basis) ...	7	2	—	—	—	—	9
(b) Midwives employed by Voluntary Organisations under arrangements made by the Authority	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Midwives employed by Hospital Boards of Management under arrangements made by the Authority with the Regional Hospital Board	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Private practising midwives	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(e) Totals	7	2	—	—	—	—	9

(v) Medical Aid.

(a) No. of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 14(2) of the Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1951, by a Midwife:—

				Total
(i) for Domiciliary Cases	—	—	—	} Nil
(ii) for Institutional Cases	—	—	—	

(vi) Administration of Analgesics

(a) No. of domiciliary midwives in the area qualified to administer analgesia in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland (including superintendents, non-medical supervisors of midwives, midwife teachers, midwives employed by the local health authority and by voluntary organisations, private practising midwives, and hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases under arrangements made by the local health authority and the Regional Hospital Board but excluding pupil midwives undergoing training in the district)		Total
		7
(i) No. in (a) employed on local health authority work		7
(ii) No. in (a) not employed on local health authority work		—
(b) No. of domiciliary midwives who received their training during the year		—
(c) No. of sets of Apparatus for the administration of analgesia in use in the area at 31st December, 1956 ...		2
(i) No. in (c) in use by domiciliary midwives employed on local health authority work (including those in use by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases)		2
(ii) No. in (c) in use by domiciliary midwives not employed on local health authority work ...		—
(d) No. of cases in which analgesia was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year (including cases attended by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases):—		
(i) When doctor was not present at delivery		2
(ii) When doctor was present at delivery		4
(e) No. of cases in which pethidine was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year (including cases attended by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases):—		
(i) When doctor was not present at delivery		—
(ii) When doctor was present at delivery		—
(vii) No. of Cars in use by midwives at 31st December, 1956		5

3. Health Visiting

The Health Visiting is undertaken by the district nursing sisters who carry out combined duties in their respective areas. The following figures relate to health visiting during the year (see table on page 16).

4. Home Nursing

This service has been efficiently maintained during the year by the District Nursing Sisters.

Number of cases attended by the District Nursing Sisters	1781
Number of visits paid to these cases	14,663

5. Domestic Help

The Scheme functions satisfactorily under the jurisdiction of the Welfare Officer. The following figures relate to the working of the Scheme during the year:—

(i) No. of Domestic Helps employed at end of year	46
(a) whole-time	—
(b) part-time	46
(c) retaining fee basis	—
(ii) No. of cases for which Helps were provided during year	84
(iii) No. of cases in (ii) provided on account of confinement:—	
(a) at home	4
(b) in hospital	—
(iv) No. of cases in (ii) provided on account of chronic sick including aged and infirm (if available)	50

This service meets a real need in the community, and a great variety of cases have been dealt with during the year. The average period of attendance has again increased, caused by the number of aged persons who are in receipt of the services of a Home Help. In many cases such help avoids the removal of people to a local authority Home. The District Nurses visit and report periodically on the cases where Helps are in attendance. Helps are granted on the recommendation of local medical practitioners and thereafter approved by the Medical Officer of Health.

6. Domiciliary Midwifery and Local Health Authority Nursing Services

Combined duties in Midwifery, Home Nursing and Health Visiting Services:—(see table on page 17).

Health Visiting

	Visits paid by Health Visitors (or by District Nurses in their capacity as Health Visitors) during the year to									
	Expectant Mothers*		Children under 1 year of age		Children between the ages of 1 and 5		Tuberculosis Cases		Other Cases	
	No. Visited (2)	Total Visits (3)	No. Visited (4)	Total Visits (5)	No. Visited (6)	Total Visits (7)	No. Visited (8)	Total Visits (9)	No. Visited (10)	Total Visits (11)
(1)										
Health Visitors employed by the Authority	—	—	401	1954	214	1946	81	711	—	—
Health Visitors employed by Voluntary Organisations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
										4611
										(12)

Note:—*These visits exclude visits paid by a midwife-health visitor who attended the confinement as a midwife or maternity nurse.

	Directly employed by Local Health Authority		Employed by Voluntary Organisations including District Nursing Assocs.		No. holding Health Visitor Certificate
	Whole-time	Part-time	Whole-time	Part-time	
Nurses and Midwives on combined duties in the Midwifery, Home Nursing and Health Visiting Services employed in the following categories:					
Superintendent (or Chief) Nursing Officers	1	—	—	—	1
Nurses and Midwives employed on:					
Midwifery, Health Visiting and Home Nursing duties	8	—	—	—	2
Total	9	—	—	—	3

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The table on page 18 shows the number of vaccinations completed during the year.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

Tuberculosis

Including patients receiving Sanatorium treatment, there were at the end of the year 193 persons resident in the County known to be suffering from Tuberculosis.

Co-operation with the Area Tuberculosis Physician during the year has been maintained with regard to the care and after-care of persons suffering from Tuberculosis and domiciliary nursing visits by the District Nursing Sisters have continued throughout the year.

A grant of 1 pint of milk daily was made to all patients residing at home who were certified by the Area Tuberculosis Physician as requiring it. At the end of the year 13 persons were receiving free milk.

Vaccination

Year of Birth of persons	Number of persons primarily vaccinated during period				Number of persons re-vaccinated during period				Complications at Vaccinations
	Typical vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th day	Accelerated (vaccinoid) reaction 5th-7th day	Reaction greatest at 2nd-3rd day	No local Reaction	Typical vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th day	Accelerated (vaccinoid) reaction 5th-7th day	Reaction greatest at 2nd-3rd day	No local Reaction	
1956	110	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
1955	70	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
1954	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1953	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
1952	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1951	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1950	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1949	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1948	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1947	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1946	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1945	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1944	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1943	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1942	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1941 or earlier	6	—	—	3	1	—	1	6	—
Totals	193	4	—	9	2	—	1	7	—

The Housing Authorities in the area continue to give sympathetic consideration to applications made by, or on behalf of, those suffering from Tuberculosis.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Thirty-six notifications of Infectious Disease (excluding Tuberculosis) were received during the year, of which 33 cases were removed to hospital, as follows:—

	Notified	Removed
Dysentery	12	12
Erysipelas	2	2
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	2	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia	3	2
Pneumonia, not otherwise notifiable	7	7
Scarlet Fever	6	6
Para-Typhoid B	3	3
Whooping Cough	1	1
	<hr/> 36	<hr/> 33

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT—PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

Specialist Clinics

78 children were examined by the visiting Consultant Surgeon—

Thornfield Clinic, Selkirk	28
Sime Place Clinic, Galashiels	50

Hospital Treatment

(a) Princess Margaret Rose Hospital, Fairmilehead, Edinburgh:—

In hospital 1st January, 1956	1
Number of admissions	2
Number of discharges	2
In hospital 31st December, 1956	1

Classification of hospital cases:—

Bilateral club foot deformities	1
Removal of bony fragment from right 5th toe	1
Poliomyelitis	1

MENTAL HEALTH

Efforts have continued to increase our knowledge of the number of cases of mentally handicapped persons in the County. So far as is known there are 72 mentally handicapped persons belonging to the County of whom 26 are school and pre-school children. There are 5 mongol children in the latter groups.

One Clinical Session was conducted by Dr Bailey, Consultant Psychiatrist, at which 18 children were examined.

Institutional accommodation for mentally handicapped persons continues to be completely inadequate. As a result, there are a number of children in the County, living in their own homes, whose presence is bound to have an adverse effect on their mothers' health and that of their brothers and sisters.

The following patients were on the Council's Register as at 31st December, 1956:—

	Males	Females
Boarded-out defectives with private guardians	5	1
Boarded-out defectives in Local Authority Homes and other accommodation provided under Part III. of the Assistance Act, 1948	1	2
Defectives in Certified Institutions	11	14
Mental Defective children in Mental Hospitals pending vacancies in Certified Institutions	—	1
	<hr/> *17	<hr/> 18
*Resident within County	10	
Resident outwith County	25	

Accommodation in Certified Institutions is practically unobtainable and there is at present a waiting list of cases resident in the County who should be receiving treatment in Institutions. All defectives under guardianship are well cared for and properly supervised. They are mostly boarded with relatives. They receive regular visitation by medical and authorised officers. Allowances to guardians average 35/- per week, and, in addition, all necessary clothing and bedding is supplied. There are three authorised officers in the County who co-operate with the local medical practitioners in all matters relating to the Mental Health Service. Cases are dealt with individually. It is sometimes possible to obtain work for suitable cases in local industries. Numbers do not justify the setting-up of occupational centres but it has been possible to arrange with local social clubs to grant facilities to a few suitable cases.

St. Mary's Certified Institution, Galashiels.

This Institution is now fully operative and provides accommodation for 30 high-grade female defectives over school age. This Home is privately owned and is under the control of the Roman Catholic Author-

ities. The patients are admitted from all parts of Scotland and receive the best attention and treatment from a qualified staff of Sisters of Mercy. One of the local medical practitioners acts as medical officer and visits regularly. Furnishings and fittings are modern and tasteful and there is no doubt that this Home is an asset to the work amongst the mentally deficient. Only one of the patients is normally resident in Selkirk County. Extensive building work is being undertaken and this will provide additional accommodation and facilities for the care of patients.

CHILDREN ACTS

Children's Home

"The Priory," Selkirk, is a Home jointly owned by Berwickshire and Selkirk County Councils. At 31st December, 1956, there were 27 children being cared for in the Home—11 boys and 16 girls. Included in this total are 2 infants under 1 year of age. The health record of the children during the year has been very good. Dr E. H. Duff acts as medical officer and visits regularly.

This Home is now very well equipped and ample accommodation (bathroom and lavatory) is provided. At the request of the Home Department milk-room facilities are to be provided (*i.e.*, special accommodation for the preparation of infant feeds). The rooms are attractive, bright and airy, and the Home has a very happy atmosphere. The staff are kept very busy and deserve great credit for their work.

Woodlands Children's Home

This Children's Home is owned and managed by the Church of Scotland. There is accommodation for children of various ages, and approximately 25 children can be accommodated. This Home appears to be functioning well and there is a happy atmosphere.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS—WELFARE SERVICES

Eildon View Home, Galashiels

This Home is jointly owned by Selkirk and Peebles Counties and has accommodation for 30 residents of both sexes plus 4 temporary beds. There has been a daily average of 29 residents during the year. At 31st December there were 20 males and 7 females, including 2 boarders (payable by outwith authorities), resident in the Home.

The Home is furnished and equipped in accordance with modern standards and the residents are very well cared for and very comfortable and happy. Dr Henderson acts as supervisory medical officer and visits the Home regularly.

Boleside House

This modern Old People's Home is very popular and is always fully occupied. At 31st December, 1956, there were resident in the Home 10 males and 12 females. There is at present a very lengthy waiting list.

The Home is the property of Selkirk County Council and a trained nurse is in charge as Matron. The residents are attended by their own medical practitioners. The Council has now appointed a local Minister as Chaplain.

Wellwood, Selkirk

This house has been acquired by the County Council and is in process of adaptation as an Old People's Home. There will be accommodation for not less than 20 residents of both sexes.

Netherby Eventide Home

This Home is owned and managed by the Church of Scotland. It is very well furnished and the residents appear to be very happy indeed. Augmentation of board is paid in 1 case—a female. A new wing consisting of single rooms, 1 double room and sick bay will be in operation very shortly.

St. Margaret's Home, Hawick

This is a Catholic Home but patients of other religious denominations are admitted when there is a vacancy. The Home is very well managed and is very comfortable. At 31st December there was one female chargeable to Selkirk County resident in the Home.

Quarrier's Epileptic Colony, Bridge-of-Weir

The Council has one male patient accommodated in this Home.

Queen's House, Kelso

Queen's House is owned and managed by the Red Cross Housing Association (Roxburghshire) Ltd. At 31st December there was one male resident where augmentation of board was paid by Selkirk County.

Christadelphian Rest Home, Southport

This is a very fine Home and exceedingly well run. One patient was chargeable to Selkirk County at 31st December last.

Temporary Accommodation

The Council has premises at 63 Back Row, Selkirk, which are used to provide accommodation for persons rendered homeless in a sudden emergency. One family is still being accommodated here. The premises are not first-class but are quite suitable for an emergency. One family had to be evacuated by reason of flood damage to their house and were temporarily accommodated in Selkirk Institute pending allocation of permanent housing.

Blind

The Welfare of the Blind is delegated to the Society for Welfare and Teaching of the Blind (Edinburgh and South-East Scotland). The Society provides a Home Teacher for the Border Areas. There are 54 blind persons on the register, including 2 workers in the Royal Blind Asylum, one of whom has a dependant wife, 2 in Dingleton Hospital, 2 in Lindburn and 1 child in Royal Blind Asylum and School. Most of the cases are over 70 years of age. Those in the younger age groups have all been taught to read as have those in the older age groups who are able to benefit by teaching.

Deaf and Dumb

Arrangements have been made with Edinburgh Society for the Deaf and Dumb to provide certain Welfare services. There are 8 registered cases in the County for whom the County pays £3 per head yearly. Regular social meetings and religious services are held.

Selkirkshire Committee for the Welfare of the Aged and Handicapped

This Committee acts as a co-ordinating Committee for all voluntary organisations in the County interested in the welfare of the aged and others. In addition, it operates a scheme for the delivery of Hot Meals to aged and home-bound cases resident in the districts of Galashiels and Selkirk. Dinners are being supplied daily to 2 old people in the landward area. Approximately 40 meals are delivered daily from Mondays to Fridays. The meals are cooked at the School Kitchen except during school holidays when alternative arrangements are made. The charge per meal is 1/2. The Retired Men's Clubs and Old Age Pensioners' Association Social meetings are also proving a great benefit.

Chiropody

The Selkirkshire Branch of the British Red Cross Society continues to operate a comprehensive scheme of treatment applicable to persons in the old age pension age groups. There is no income limit on this service for which there is a minimum charge of 1/- for treatment but patients are encouraged to contribute according to their means. The average contribution is approximately 2/6 per treatment. The County Council through its Health Committee makes an annual contribution towards the deficit. Weekly clinics are held in Selkirk (80 patients on register) and at Galashiels (150 on register). In addition there are approximately 6 to 8 cases in the rural areas receiving domiciliary treatment regularly. The scheme is operated by a fully qualified and experienced Chiropodist who also attends regularly at Boleside Home, Netherby and the Sander-son Cottage Homes. On an average, each patient receives treatment every 4-6 weeks.

SCHOOL MEDICAL REPORT

Year ending 31st July, 1956.

It is gratifying to record that 90·2 per cent. of all school entrants had been immunised against Diphtheria. For the same group the Vaccination rate against Smallpox was 55·8 per cent.

The service provided by the Educational Psychologists on the staff of Edinburgh Education Committee was firmly established during the year. It has proved most valuable in assessing the needs of handicapped children and, during the session, 58 new cases were examined, 74 parent interviews undertaken, 120 discussions with teachers about cases were undertaken and 91 reports were made.

Berwickshire withdrew from the Joint Speech Therapy Service and Selkirkshire and Roxburghshire have continued to employ two Speech Therapists. When possible, pre-school children of an age to enter school in the near future are also treated.

The two Special Classes continue to carry out excellent work with mentally handicapped pupils but there still remains the problem of those children of school age who are classified as ineducable. Some of them require institutional accommodation and this has continued to be extremely difficult to obtain.

List of Staff as at 31st July, 1956

Chief School Medical Officer—Dr A. F. MCCOUBREY, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officer—Dr L. F. HOWITT, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officer—Dr JOAN CAMPSIE, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.P.H.

Senior Dental Officer—Mrs C. E. GRIEVE, L.D.S.

Area Dental Officer—Post Vacant.

Dental Nurse—Miss E. P. HENDERSON.

School Nurses

County Superintendent—Miss D. G. DUNCAN.

Galashiels—Misses M. F. BATHGATE, J. B. SCOTT, and Mrs E. BEVERIDGE

Selkirk—Misses CHEYNE and MORRICE.

Landward Area—Misses M. B. RICHARDSON and B. KING.

General Statistics

Population of the area (estimated to June, 1955)	21,256
Number of Schools:—	
(a) Primary (under Education Authority)	20
(b) Secondary (under Education Authority)	2
(c) (1) Special Schools	—
(2) Special Classes in ordinary schools	2
Number of children on the Registers, <i>i.e.</i> , for whole area	3,150
Number of children in average attendance	2,918 (92·8%)

Table I.

Total number of children examined at schools:—

(A)	Systematic Examinations	Other Systematic Examinations
Entrants—No previous routine inspection	408	55
Second Age Group—Born 1946	371	7
Third Age Group—Born 1942	280	4
Fourth Age Group—Born 1939	35	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	1094	66
(B)		Other Examinations
Pupils Born in 1948 (Vision and Hearing only)		314
Special Cases		39
Re-inspections		63
		<hr/>
		416

Number of individual children inspected at Systematic Examinations who were notified to parents as requiring treatment (excluding uncleanliness and dental caries):—

Entrants	78
Second Age Group	82
Third Age Group	36
Fourth Age Group	2
1948—Vision and Hearing	17
	<hr/>
	215

Table II

STATISTICS OF CONDITIONS FOUND AT SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Nature of Defect	Total examined at all ages	Entrants Boys Girls	Second Age Group Boys Girls	Third Age Group Boys Girls	Fourth Age Group Boys Girls	All ages Boys Girls
	1160	228 235	207 171	147 137	12 23	594 566
1. Clothing Unsatisfactory	—	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
2. Footgear Unsatisfactory	—	1 —	— —	— —	— —	1 —
3. Uncleanliness (a) Head—Dirty Nits or Vermin (b) Body—Dirty Vermineous	— — —	1 — — — — —	— — — — — —	— — — — — —	— — — — — —	1 — — — — —
4. Skin (a) Head—Ringworm Impetigo Other Diseases (b) Body—Ringworm Impetigo Scabies Other Diseases	— — — — — —	— — — — 1 — — — — — 2 1	— — — — 1 — — — — — 1 —	— — — — 1 — — — — — 1 1	— — — — — — — — — — — —	— — — — 2 1 — — — — 4 2
5. Nutritional State Slightly defective Bad	— —	— — — —	1 1 — —	— — — —	— — — —	1 1 — —

Table II—Continued

Nature of Defect	Total examined at all ages	Entrants Boys Girls	Second Age Group Boys Girls	Third Age Group Boys Girls	Fourth Age Group Boys Girls	All ages Boys Girls
6. Mouth and Teeth Unhealthy	1160	228 235	207 171	147 137	12 23	594 566
	—	3 5	2 1	— —	— —	5 6
7. Naso-Pharynx						
(a) Nose—Req. Observ.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Req. Operation	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other conditions	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Throat—Tonsils Req. Obs.	—	8 5	5 1	3 3	—	9 9
Tonsils Req. Oper.	—	2 3	2 2	—	—	3 3
(c) Glands—Glands Req. Obser.	—	4 4	2 2	3 2	—	9 6
Glands Req. Oper.	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Eyes						
(a) External Disease						
Blepharitis	—	—	—	—	—	1
Conjunctivitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Corneal Opacities	—	—	—	—	—	—
Strabismus	—	13 9	2 2	—	—	15 11
Other Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Visual Acuity						
Without Glasses—						
Good working vision	—	—	196 148	135 112	10 19	341 279
Fair working vision	—	—	11 23	12 25	2 4	25 52
Bad working vision	—	—	—	—	—	—
With Glasses—						
Good working vision	—	—	4 7	7 14	2 4	13 25
Fair working vision	—	—	— 3	—	—	— 3
Bad working vision	—	—	—	—	—	—
For refraction	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table II—Continued

Nature of Defect	Total examined at all ages	Entrants		Second Age Group		Third Age Group		Fourth Age Group		All ages	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
	1160	228	235	207	171	147	137	12	23	594	566
9. Ears											
(a) Diseases—Otorrhoea	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Other Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
(b) Hearing—Grade I	—	—	—	3	1	—	3	—	—	3	4
Grade IIA	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Grade IIB	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grade III	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Speech											
Defective Articulation	—	3	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
Stammering	—	5	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	2
11. Mental and Nervous Conditions											
Backward	—	3	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	6	2
Dull	—	1	2	1	1	4	1	—	—	6	4
Mentally Defective (Educable)	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Mentally Defective (Ineducable)	—	—	1	1	2	2	1	2	—	5	4
Highly Nervous or Unstable	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	1
Difficult in Behaviour	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
12. Circulatory System											
(a) Organic Heart Disease—											
Congenital	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Acquired	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
(b) Functional Conditions	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2

Table II—Continued

Nature of Defect	Total Examined at all ages	Entrants		Second Age Group		Third Age Group		Fourth Age Group		All ages																																	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls																																
	1160	228	235	207	171	147	137	12	23	594	566																																
13. Lungs																																											
Chronic Bronchitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—																																
Suspected Tuberculosis	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—																																
Other Diseases	—	3	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	4	1																																
14. Deformities																																											
Congenital	—	4	—	3	5	5	2	—	—	12	7																																
Acquired (Infantile Paralysis)	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—																																
Acquired (Probable Rickets)	—	7	—	9	8	1	2	—	—	17	10																																
Acquired (Other causes)	—	15	2	22	21	38	16	—	—	75	39																																
15. Infectious Diseases																																											
	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	3	—																																
16. Other Diseases or Defects																																											
	—	2	—	3	—	2	2	1	—	8	2																																
<table><tr><td colspan="2" rowspan="2">Pupils Born in 1948</td><td colspan="2">No. Examined</td><td colspan="2">No. Defective</td></tr><tr><td>Boys</td><td>Girls</td><td>Boys</td><td>Girls</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2" rowspan="2">(Vision and Hearing only)—</td><td>154</td><td>160</td><td>12</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>154</td><td>160</td><td>3</td><td>—</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Vision</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Hearing</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>												Pupils Born in 1948		No. Examined		No. Defective		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	(Vision and Hearing only)—		154	160	12	11	154	160	3	—	Vision						Hearing					
Pupils Born in 1948		No. Examined		No. Defective																																							
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls																																						
(Vision and Hearing only)—		154	160	12	11																																						
		154	160	3	—																																						
Vision																																											
Hearing																																											

TABLE III
SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Classification	Entrants		2nd Age Group		3rd Age Group		4th Age Group		Total	
	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)
I. Children free from defects	365	78.83	289	76.45	164	57.75	28	80.00	846	72.93
II. Children (otherwise free from defects) who suffer from—										
(a) Defective vision not worse than 6/12 in the better eye with or without glasses	6	1.30	20	5.29	40	14.08	6	17.14	72	6.21
(b) Conditions of the mouth and teeth requiring treatment	6	1.30	2	0.53	2	0.70	—	—	10	0.86
(c) Both (a) and (b)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	12	2.60	22	5.82	42	14.78	6	17.14	82	7.07
III. Children suffering from ailments (other than those mentioned in II.) from which complete recovery is anticipated within a few weeks	28	6.05	9	2.38	4	1.41	—	—	41	3.53
IV. Children suffering from (or suspected to be suffering from) defect less remediable than defects specified in II. or III., distinguishing cases—										
(a) Where complete cure or restoration of function (in the case of eye defect, full correction) is considered possible	36	7.77	43	11.38	50	17.61	1	2.86	129	11.12
(b) Where improvement only is considered possible, e.g., without complete restoration of function	22	4.75	15	3.97	24	8.45	—	—	62	5.35
Total	58	12.52	58	15.35	74	26.06	1	2.86	191	16.47
Total Number of Children Examined	463	100.00	378	100.00	284	100.00	35	100.00	1160	100.00

(a) Number of Children. (b) Percentage of children examined in this group.

Table IV

Return of all Exceptional Children of School Age in the Area

Disability	At ordinary schools	At special schools or classes	At no school or Institu- tion	Total
1. Blind	—	—	—	—
No vision in one eye	6	1	—	7
2. Partially sighted:				
(a) Refractive errors in which the curriculum of an ordin- ary school would adversely affect the eye condition	—	—	—	—
(b) Other conditions of the eye, <i>e.g.</i> , cataract, ulcera- tion, etc., which render the child unable to read ordinary school books or to see well enough to be taught in an ordinary school	1	—	—	1
3. Deaf:				
Grade I	6	—	—	6
Grade IIa	1	—	—	1
Grade IIb	—	—	—	—
Grade III	—	—	—	—
4. Defective Speech:				
(a) Defects of articulation re- quiring special educational measures	—	—	—	—
(b) Stammering requiring special educational mea- sures	—	—	—	—
5. Mentally defective: (Children between 5-16 years)				
(a) Educable (I.Q. approx. 50-70)	16	19	1	36
(b) Ineducable (I.Q. generally less than 50)	—	5	1	6
6. Epilepsy:				
(a) Mild and occasional	9	—	—	9
(b) Severe (suitable for care in a residential school)	—	2	—	2
7. Physically defective: (Children between 5-16 years)				
(a) Non-pulmonary tuber- culosis (excluding cervical glands)	—	—	—	—
(b) General Orthopaedic con- ditions	562	—	—	562
(c) Organic heart disease	2	—	—	2
(d) Other causes of ill-health	3	1	—	4

Table IV—Continued

Disability	At ordinary schools	At special schools or classes	At no school or institution	Total
8. Multiple defects:				
(i) Mentally defective (in-educable and physically defective ("General orthopaedic conditions"))	I	—	2	3
(ii) Mentally defective (in-educable) and epilepsy (mild)	—	I	—	I
(iii) Mentally defective (in-educable) and epilepsy (severe)	—	—	—	—
(iv) Mentally defective (in-educable) and blind	—	—	—	—
(v) Mentally defective (educable) and physically defective ("General orthopaedic conditions")	—	I	—	I
(vi) Mentally defective (educable) and epilepsy (mild)	I	I	—	2
(vii) Mentally defective (educable) and epilepsy (severe)	—	I	—	I
(viii) Mentally defective (educable) and physically defective ("other causes of ill health")	—	—	I	I
(ix) Mentally defective (educable) and deaf	—	—	—	—
(x) Mentally defective (educable) and blind	—	—	—	—
(xi) Other multiple defects	—	—	—	—

AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS

Number Examined		Average		
		Age Yrs. Mths.	Height (ins.)	Weight (lbs.)
Entrants				
Boys	201	5 4	43.33	44.56
Girls	207	5 3	42.91	42.16
Second Age-Group				
Boys	205	9 1	50.75	62.98
Girls	166	9 1	51.94	62.24
Third Age-Group				
Boys	146	13 7	60.13	97.65
Girls	134	13 7	60.78	99.48
Fourth Age-Group				
Boys	12	16 6	68.15	143.70
Girls	23	16 6	64.61	124.89

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT

The scheme provides for the treatment of school children suffering from orthopaedic defects who have been recommended for treatment by the school medical officers or general practitioners.

By arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board, Mr George Pollock, F.R.C.S., Edinburgh, acts as consultant and clinics are held fortnightly at either Thornfield, Selkirk, or Sime Place, Galashiels.

School children on active treatment register at 1st Aug., 1955 — 392

School children on active treatment register at 31st July, 1956 562

Distribution of Cases—

	Galashiels	Selkirk
At 1st Aug., 1955	220	172
At 31st July, 1956	318	244

Record of Consultant Clinics—

Centre	No. of Clinics held	No. of Children examined
Thornfield Clinic, Selkirk	9	203
Sime Place Clinic, Galashiels	9	228

(Note: These figures include a small proportion of pre-school children).

Record of attendances at treatment clinics—

	Month	Clinic	Home Visits
1955	August	—	—
	September	608	10
	October	614	6
	November	638	11
	December	608	4
1956	January	654	9
	February	662	4
	March	676	7
	April	640	5
	May	680	7
	June	674	4
	July	301	10

Institutional Treatment—

P.M.R. Hospital	
In residence 1st Aug., 1955	Nil
Admissions	9
Discharges	7
In residence 31st July, 1956	2
No. of patient days	355

Classification of Hospital Cases—

Calcaneo—cavus deformity of the feet	I
Congenital short left lower limb	I
Congenital talipes equinus varus	I
Hallux valgus deformity	2
Right sided torticollis	I
Spastic flat foot	I
Spastic hemiplegia on the right side	I
Toe deformity	I

SPEECH DEFECTS

	Stammering	Other Defects
Total number of Cases continued from 1955-56—		
School	27	97
Pre-School	—	—
Total	27	97
Cases referred—		
School	10	35
Pre-School	—	I
Total	10	36
Total cases treated—		
School	15	59
Pre-school	—	I
Total	15	60
Attendances—		
School	385	1700
Pre-school	—	25
Total	385	1725
Cases discharged—		
School	8	39
Pre-school	—	I
Total	8	40
Total cases to be continued to 1956-57—		
School	29	93
Pre-school	—	—
Total	29	93

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

(1) Inspected by Dental Officer—

Age	(a) Routine Inspections	(b) Special and Emergency Cases	Total
5	39	1	40
6	40	—	40
7	41	1	42
8	51	1	52
9	62	1	63
10	57	1	58
11	64	1	65
12	45	1	46
13	1	1	2
14	3	—	3
15	—	—	—
15 +	—	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	403	8	411

	Routine Inspections	Special and Emergency Cases
(2) (a) Found to require treatment	305	8
(b) Accepting treatment	150	8
(c) Cards signed for private treatment	153	8
(d) Known to be treated privately	66	—
(3) Actually treated by the School Dental Officer	113	8
(4) Attendances made by children for treat- ment	288	8
(5) Completed cases	33	—
(6) Fillings—(a) Permanent Teeth	233	1
(b) Temporary Teeth	21	—
(7) Extractions—(a) Permanent Teeth	40	4
(b) Temporary Teeth	68	5
(8) Administrations of a general anaesthetic	6	5
(9) Other operations—		
(a) Permanent Teeth	70	—
(b) Temporary Teeth	14	—
(10) Orthodontic cases—		
(a) Visits	7	—
(b) Treatment	10	—
(c) X-Rays	—	—
(11) Half days—		
(a) Inspection	3	—
(b) Treatment	43	—

Remarks

Selkirkshire had no full-time dental officer during the session. After the Easter Holidays a part-time service of three sessions per week was instituted.

A full-time Dental Officer was appointed and will commence duty in October, 1956.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN

Thirty-four girls and eighty boys were examined with a view to being passed as fit to undertake certain forms of part-time employment under the Council's Byelaws. Certificates were granted in each case.

EYE CLINIC

The following figures relate to treatment carried out at the Eye Clinic from September, 1955, to July, 1956.

	Galashiels	Selkirk
Number of Clinics held	13	5
Number of cases examined	84	37
Number of cases for which glasses were pre-scribed	37	20

MEDICAL TREATMENT

(A) Minor Ailments treated at School Clinics

1. Cuts, bruises and other minor injuries	86
2. Diseases of the ear	3
3. Diseases of the eye	—
4. Diseases of the skin—	
Ringworm (scalp)	2
Ringworm (body)	—
Scabies	—
Impetigo	10
5. Treatment of Verminous Infestation	9
6. Burns and Scalds	—
7. U.V.R. Treatments	307
8. Others	236
Total	653

Number of school children visited during the year by school nurses 75

Total number of visits paid 192

COUNTY SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Statistics

Population—Landward

(Estimated 30th June, 1956)

3,113

Number of Houses—Landward

881

Area

171,209 acres

Valuation—Landward

Gross

£63,326 16s od

Rateable

£22,757 10s od

Although another twelve months have elapsed without the coming into force of the Food Hygiene Regulations which, it was confidently predicted, would be in operation early in 1955, the year under review saw the appearance in the Statute Book of a number of important pieces of legislation, including The Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, The Clean Air Act and The Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, all of which, because they have a bearing, either directly or indirectly on the health of the people, fall to be administered, wholly or in part, by sanitarians.

It may be of interest to note that the Food and Drugs Act makes provision for the compulsory notification by general practitioners of all cases of food poisoning.

Another Act which came into force in England and Wales during the year was the Sanitary Inspectors (Change of Designation) Act, 1956 which, as its name implies, had the effect of designating all sanitary inspectors in these countries as public health inspectors.

In this country, however, for the time being at least, no change of designation is contemplated.

In May and June all the dairy premises in the County were surveyed by Mr W. B. Sampson, B.Sc., one of the Department of Health's Milk Inspectors, who afterwards expressed himself as being satisfied with the progress made since his previous survey in 1951. Credit for this is due, almost entirely, to the producers themselves and I should like to take this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the efforts they make to ensure that milk wholesaled or retailed for consumption in the county and elsewhere is produced on their premises under the best possible hygienic conditions and my thanks for the co-operation extended to my staff and myself.

In the Spring of the year, in anticipation of the Food Hygiene Regulations and in an attempt to stimulate the interest of the public, generally, and of food handlers, particularly, in storing and preparing food, Clean Food Exhibitions, each lasting 5 days, were held in the Burghs of Selkirk and Galashiels. Further details of these activities are included in the body of this report.

General Sanitation—

Water Supplies, Drainage and Sewage Disposal:

No samples were procured from public water supplies as a matter of routine nor had it been found possible, by the end of the year, to instal the slow sand filter referred to in my last report.

21 samples, however, 5 chemical and 16 bacteriological were obtained from private water supplies as compared with 3 chemical and 30 bacteriological samples last year.

Of these, all the samples submitted for chemical analyses were satisfactory as were 11 samples sent for bacteriological examination. Of the remaining bacteriological samples one was placed in a "suspicious" category whilst the remainder were unsatisfactory. It should perhaps be pointed out, however, that of the 4 samples placed in the latter category 3 were taken from different points on a supply in which a chlorine dispenser was eventually incorporated. A sample of the chlorinated water proved to be highly satisfactory and, providing the installation is regularly and efficiently maintained, I feel sure that future samples will continue to show that the supply is fit for general domestic purposes.

A considerable amount of time had necessarily to be devoted to the investigation of these private water supplies and to the taking of samples but, in my opinion, it was time very well spent because the benefits of a pure and wholesome water supply cannot be over estimated.

To be suitable for general domestic purposes water should contain few organisms of any kind. In this connection, however, I suggest the following excerpt from the Joint Ministry of Health and Ministry of Housing and Local Government Memorandum "The Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplies" should be noted:—

"Upland surface waters may have very high plate counts even in the absence of rainfall and in the apparent absence of excretal pollution. The count often increases considerably during the summer months, presumably due to the access of dust and of organic matter from decaying vegetation and to the seasonal increase in temperature, which together favour bacterial multiplication."

All public sewage schemes in the Landward area continued to be supervised by the County Road Surveyor and no complaints were received with regard to their operation or the means of disposal of the effluents.

Following a report from the River Inspector to the Tweed River Board regarding a discharge of untreated or virtually untreated sewage from a number of properties immediately outwith Selkirk Burgh boundaries into the River Ettrick, the matter was taken up with the proprietors concerned and also with Selkirk Town Council who stated that they would be prepared to permit the sewer serving the properties in question to be connected to the Burgh's main sewerage system providing steps were taken to eliminate all surface water therefrom. Accordingly, Messrs Blyth & Blyth, Consultant Engineers, Edinburgh, were asked to prepare a scheme and, by the end of the year, steps were being taken to carry out their proposals, the work being supervised by my department.

A further complaint was lodged to the effect that sewage from one of the schools in the Landward area was discharging into a roadside ditch and giving rise to a serious smell nuisance. With the help and co-operation of the Master of Works, the complaint was investigated and found to be well-founded. Thereafter, proposals were submitted, not only for abating this nuisance but for dealing with sewage and waste water, generally, from a number of properties in the area and the County Council is to be commended for implementing in full the suggestions contained in the report.

Work on the sewage disposal works to serve Peel Hospital continued and by the end of the year a stage had been reached where it was possible to divert sewage, etc., from the former septic tank for treatment in the new sedimentation tanks. As stated in my previous report, when the works are in operation the question of adequate and efficient maintenance will have to be considered as a matter of urgency.

One request was received for advice on the siting and construction of a septic tank to serve a private dwellinghouse and this was gladly given.

Cleansing and Refuse Disposal

Arrangements for the collection and removal of household refuse continued as for last year.

I have in mind proposals for providing a scavenging service for a village contiguous to the Burgh of Galashiels and hope to be in a position to submit details of a scheme for consideration by the County Council early in 1957.

Offensive Trades

No premises are registered for the conduct of offensive trades in the Landward area of the County.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

1 mechanical factory was removed from the register in 1956 and the position at the end of the year was, as follows—

Mechanical Factories	7
Non-mechanical Factories	1

These premises were visited on four occasions and, bearing in mind the number of persons employed therein, conditions, generally, were found to be reasonably satisfactory, the defects referred to in my last report having received the attention of the owners concerned.

Certificates of Means of Escape in Case of Fire

On the advice of the Firemaster, South-Eastern Fire Brigade, who very kindly inspected the factory and thereafter made a number of recommendations which were complied with timeously, a certificate in terms of Section 34 of the Factories Act was granted to the owners.

The help and co-operation of the Firemaster in this connection was greatly appreciated.

Schools

The replacement of old and obsolete W.C's, etc., with modern sanitary facilities was continued on a pre-arranged schedule compiled by the Master of Works and approved by the Education Committee, and conditions at the few schools visited were generally found to be suitable.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1948

Appended are excerpts from a report which Local Authorities are called upon annually to submit to the Department of Agriculture for Scotland—

1. Staff employed in carrying out Local Authority functions under the Act,

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| (a) Administrative: | The sole operative employed by Roxburgh County Council is available on request for rat destruction work when his duties in Roxburghshire permit. |
| (b) Survey: | |
| (c) Operational: | |

2. Measures taken for the Discovery, Prevention and Control of Rats and Mice.

Inspections are undertaken only on complaint or as a result of reports received as to rodent infestation.

3. Measures taken regarding properties specially liable to infestation.

In view of the fact that the operative is employed almost wholly by Roxburgh County Council, no special routine measures are taken to inspect properties specially liable to infestation and no notifications of undue prevalence of rats have been made.

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority Properties	Dwelling Houses	Business or Industrial Premises	Agricultural Properties	Total
Number of properties inspected by the L.A. during 1956.					
(a) as a result of notification	4	2	1	—	7
Otherwise	—	—	—	—	—
Total	4	2	1	—	7
Number of above properties found to be infested by rats or mice	4	2	1	—	7
Number of above infested properties satisfactorily cleared.					
(a) by the L.A.	4	2	1	—	7
(b) Otherwise	—	—	—	—	—
Total	4	2	1	—	7
Number of Notices served under Section 4.					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Works	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases in which default action was taken by L.A. following issue of notice under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—
Number of Notices issued under Section 6(2)	—	—	—	—	—

No. of Ships treated, Nil. No. of Rodent Control Certificates issued, Nil.

Tents, Vans and Sheds

As stated in last year's report, there are no official caravan sites in the Landward area. Occasionally, however, I am told of the presence of a caravan on a private site only to find, on investigation, that its stay was of one night's duration and that it had moved before I was able to interview the owner and acquaint him with the terms of the Council's Byelaws which require that the person in charge should intimate the presence of the caravan or moveable dwelling to the County Medical Officer of Health.

A number of timber dwellings continue to be occupied as holiday houses and, generally on inspection, these were noted to provide a reasonable standard of accommodation.

Burial Grounds

To the best of my knowledge all the burial grounds in the County were conducted in a proper manner. Certainly no complaints were received.

Infectious Diseases

That the well-known infectious diseases of a few years ago, *e.g.*, diphtheria and scarlet fever, are no longer a problem may be evinced from the fact that no cases of these or of any other of the notifiable diseases came to my notice during the year.

Nuisances

Fewer complaints than usual were lodged during 1956. Those dealt with, however, included a most obnoxious smell from a small water-course which flowed through some agricultural land. Samples of the stream were taken and submitted for analysis and it was found that the smell was due to the presence in the water of decaying vegetable matter. The complainant, who incidentally was the owner of the fields, was informed and he took steps to have the nuisance abated.

Another complaint which received attention was one to the effect that effluent from a septic tank was discharging into a roadside ditch causing it to become fouled and odorous. The author of this nuisance condition was visited and immediately agreed to take steps to put matters right.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926

The duty of enforcing the provisions of the above Act is laid on the County Council who have appointed all sanitary inspectors as Inspectors under the Act. In that capacity, they may, on their own initiative, take formal or informal samples of fertilisers and feeding stuffs for the purposes of detection and prevention of non-observance of the provisions of the Act. Legal proceedings, however, may not be based on the results of informal samples which are taken for information only.

The Fertilisers and Feedings Stuffs Regulations, 1955, which came into operation on 1st January, 1956, consolidate with amendments previous regulations made under the 1926 Act. The principal changes

involve certain alterations of the limits within which mis-statements of quality and content are not actionable, of the manner of sampling and of the methods of analysis of samples of fertilisers.

Two samples of fertilisers were taken and on analysis both were found to comply with the respective warranties.

Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948

The Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1953

Registrations, 1956	Premises	Vehicles
Number granted during year	1	1
Number cancelled	—	—
Number discontinued for any other reason	1	—
Total number in force at 31st December, 1956	8	4
Premises registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream	6	—
Premises registered for storage and sale only	2	—

As much time as possible continued to be devoted to inspections of and visitations to the above premises and, whilst I have already stated in a previous report a number of the manufacturing premises are not entirely satisfactory from a structural point of view, mainly on account of restricted floor areas, I think it safe to say that, without exception, all were kept in as clean a condition as possible.

One shop which was formerly registered for the manufacture of a cold mix changed hands and as, in my opinion, it was not up to the prescribed standard for this purpose, I recommended that the transfer of the registration of the premises to the new owner be withheld until he had carried out a number of necessary alterations. Eventually, because of the cost involved, the owner decided to retail pre-packed ice cream only—a very wise decision, in my opinion.

Letters were addressed to three manufacturers asking them to consider the installation of twin galvanised sinks and the provision of suitable equipment for the sterilisation by steam of their equipment and utensils and all, I am glad to be able to say, have stated they will do what they can to comply with my requests as soon as they are in a position to do so.

Generally, I think, the visits my staff were able to make were welcomed by the manufacturers, who gave the impression of being most willing to co-operate.

A complaint by an ice cream retailer of the presence of “foreign bodies” in two tins of a proprietary brand of ice cream powder which he had received direct from the manufacturers was taken up with the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the area concerned. He visited the factory and made a number of suggestions for rendering the premises proof against birds. These suggestions were implemented by the management without delay and should prevent a recurrence of what was a most unfortunate incident.

Sampling

The undernoted samples were taken—

1. Chemical Analysis

Sample No.	Fat Content	Result
1	5.46%	Genuine
2	6.62%	Genuine
3	5.75%	Genuine
4	5.29%	Genuine

2. Bacteriological Examinations

Sample No.	Plate Count per c.c.	B. Coli	Result
1	500	— — —	Satisfactory
2	11,000	— — —	Satisfactory
3	100	— — —	Satisfactory
4	8,500	—	Satisfactory
5	75,000	+ + +	Unsatisfactory
6	470,000	— + —	Unsatisfactory
7	3,000	— — —	Satisfactory
8	Uncountable	+ + +	Unsatisfactory
9	130,000	+ + +	Unsatisfactory
10	5,500	— — —	Satisfactory
11	600	— — —	Satisfactory
12	6,000	— — —	Satisfactory
13	11,800	— + +	Unsatisfactory
14	15,600	— + +	Unsatisfactory

Housing

Housing (Repairs and Rents) (Scotland) Act, 1954—Part I

Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950—Part II

In implementation of the proposals outlined in their report submitted to the Secretary of State for Scotland in terms of Section 1 of the Housing (Repairs and Rents) (Scotland) Act, 1954 and referred to in detail in my last annual report, the County Council agreed that notices, in terms of Section 9 of the 1950 Act, should be served on the owners of a number of unoccupied houses considered to be unfit for human habitation and incapable of being rendered so fit at a reasonable cost and subsequently, in the majority of cases, it was agreed to accept Undertakings that the subjects concerned would not be re-let until the Local Authority was satisfied that they had been rendered fully fit. In two cases the necessary Demolition Orders were made and in two further cases modified Undertakings were accepted to the effect that the houses would only be used for temporary accommodation during the summer months, namely from 1st April to 1st November.

Housing (Repairs and Rents) (Scotland) Act, 1954—Part II

“Certificates of Disrepair”

Although the provisions of the above Act have been in operation for some time now no attempt has been made by property owners in the

landward area to claim rent increases and I feel that this is due, in no small measure, to the landlords' desire not to give their tenants an opportunity of applying to the Local Authority for a "Certificate of Disrepair" which, if granted, would mean not only the suspension of the "repairs increase" but also, in certain circumstances, of the 40 per cent. increase payable under the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1930.—In other words, a reduction of rents to the 1914 level.

Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950—Part VII

"Improvement Grants"

As in former years a great deal of time was spent in investigating and dealing with applications for grants, in terms of the above Act, towards the cost of modernising dwelling-houses and, whilst no applications were turned down, a number of schemes were approved only after very full discussions with the applicants as to the general standards demanded in the County in all cases involving the payment of public monies. In this connection I should like, once again, to record my appreciation of the co-operation extended to my Department by all the architects and contractors with whom its personnel came into contact during the year.

The following is a summary of applications submitted, visitations made and the amount paid by way of grant—

Applications	No. of Houses Involved	No. of Visits	Approved Cost of Schemes	Amount of Grant Paid
10	13	41	£9,748 19 3d	£4,179 7s 9d

Last year the total approved cost of schemes considered and the amount payable by way of grant were £5,162 19s 11d and £2,454 15s 3d respectively.

In the past three years a total of £8,516 5s 10d has been paid out in grants.

Housing (Scotland) Act, 1952—Section 3

"The provision of new houses for Agricultural Workers"

One application for grant under the County Council's Scheme of Assistance for the provision of houses for the agricultural population in terms of the above Act was approved subject to the approval of the Secretary of State and H.M. Treasury.

The application involved the erection of a 4-apartment non-traditional house at a total estimated cost of £1,890.

Building Byelaws

Consideration was resumed on the question of whether the Model Building Byelaws, prepared by the Department of Health for Scotland in 1953 and since adopted by the majority of local authorities throughout the country, should be adopted in the landward area and eventually it was agreed to seek the approval of the Secretary of State to do so.

When the Byelaws come into force, probably in the first half of next year, the task of my Department in dealing with Byelaw applications will be simplified in so far as, instead of having to consider a separate set of Byelaws for Selkirkshire and Roxburghshire as at present, the same Byelaws will apply in both areas. Architects and contractors setting and carrying out works in both counties will also, no doubt, welcome the change.

19 applications for permission to carry out improvements and/or alterations to properties in terms of the Byelaws were considered and eventually approved. This represents an increase of 5 over last year's applications.

Private Enterprise Houses

Unlike last year, when applications for the erection of five houses for private occupation were dealt with, no applications were lodged.

Drain Tests

In the course of some 26 visits, a number of which had necessarily to be made at extremely short notice, approximately 800 yards of spigot and faucet fireclay drains were inspected and successfully withstood the tests applied to them.

Certificates of Fitness for Occupation

In accordance with the Byelaw provisions, four certificates were issued to the effect that the houses concerned had been examined and had been found to have been constructed in accordance with approved plans and specifications.

Local Authority Houses

No houses were built to let during the year.

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956

As stated in the opening paragraph of this report, the above Act came into operation in the course of the year and the sanitary inspectors employed under the Joint Medical and Sanitary Services Committee were formally appointed to be "Authorised Officers."

The Act is concerned, primarily, with the provision, maintenance and cleanliness of sanitary conveniences and washing facilities on every "agricultural unit" which is interpreted as being "land which is occupied as a unit for agricultural purposes" and, whilst, other duties have so far prevented my staff carrying out any inspections, the administrative arrangements as set up by the Act appear to me to be peculiar in that it appears that Local Authorities have the duty of enforcing the provisions relating to the provision, cleansing and maintenance of sanitary conveniences whereas the duty of securing washing facilities is imposed on the Department of Agriculture. A certain amount of duplication appears, therefore, to be unavoidable.

The Clean Air Act

The Clean Air Act, 1956 (Appointed Day) (Scotland) Order, 1956

By the latter Order certain provisions of the Clean Air Act, which received the Royal Assent on 5th July, were brought into operation on the last day of the year. These included provisions relating to smoke from furnaces, smoke control areas, the extension of the Alkali, etc. Works Regulation (Scotland) Act, 1951, to cover the emission of smoke, grit and dust from premises controlled or to be controlled under that Act, colliery spoilbanks and the constitution of the Clean Air Council.

Under the Act Local Authorities are given power to declare "smoke control areas" subject to the confirmation by the Department of Health and once a "smoke control area" has been declared it is an offence to emit smoke from domestic chimneys within its boundaries.

It is most unlikely, however, that a "smoke control area" is likely to be formed in the landward area of Selkirkshire, at least in the foreseeable future.

It is possibly a matter of regret, finally, that no power has yet been given to deal with the emission of smoke from railway engines.

Milk and Dairies

Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914

Action, as undernoted, was taken in terms of the above Act—

1. Certificates of Registration cancelled or otherwise discontinued	—
2. Certificates of Registration transferred	1
3. Certificates of Registration granted	—
4. Total number of Registered Producers at 31st December, 1956	26

Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) Order, 1951

A.—Producers' Licences

One licence authorising the use of the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" was issued during the year and as no designated licences were suspended, revoked or discontinued for any reason, the position as at 31st December, 1956 may be summarised as follows—

1. Number of Producers' licences authorising the use of the special designation "Certified" in force	—
2. Number of Producers' licences authorising the use of the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" in force	19

B.—Pasteurisers' Licences

1. Number of Pasteurisers' licences in force	1
--	---

C.—Dealers' Licences

1. Number of Dealers' licences authorising the use of the special designation "Certified" in force	1
--	---

2. Number of Dealers' licences authorising the use of the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" in force	2
3. Number of Dealers' licences authorising the use of the special designation "Pasteurised" in force	1

D.—Dealers' Supplementary Licences

1. Number of Dealers' Supplementary licences authorising the use of the special designation "Pasteurised" in force	1
--	-------	---

Percentage of Registered Producers holding Designated Licences

With the upgrading of a non-designated producer 19 out of 21 registered producers now hold designated licences. This is equal to 90.5 per cent., an extremely high percentage.

Of the 2 remaining non-designated producers one, it is anticipated, will be giving up dairying early in 1957 and the other, with minor alterations to his premises, could apply, with confidence, for a "Tuberculin Tested" licence if he wished to do so.

As stated in the opening paragraph, all designated premises were visited by one of the Department of Health's Milk Inspectors during the year who noted a marked improvement in the construction of a number of premises and in the general standard of hygiene of milk production. In the former connection, I think it of interest to record the work undertaken during the past four years or so—

Premises	Works Undertaken
1. Synton Mains, Ashkirk.	New double-headed byre for 40 cows provided together with new milkroom and dairy scullery.
2. No. 4 Holding, Lindean.	Cement washed floor in small byre replaced with concrete floor and grips widened to 2 ft. 6 ins. Additional roof lighting and natural ventilation provided in both byres. Pumping unit removed from small byre.
3. South Common, Selkirk.	New single-headed byre provided. Minor improvements effected to milkroom and dairy scullery, including removal from latter compartment of solid fuel boiler.
4. Carterhaugh, Selkirk.	Byre accommodation reconstructed and now under one roof. New dairy scullery provided.
5. Helmburn, Ettrickbridge.	Small byre completely renovated. Minor improvements effected to milkroom.
6. Wester Langlee, Galashiels.	Single sided byre and dairy scullery improved.
7. Whytbank, Clovenfords.	Alterations to byre, milkroom and dairy scullery. Water supply improved.
8. Philiphaugh, Selkirk.	Dairy scullery improved.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 9. Fairnilee,
Galashiels. | Solid fuel boiler removed from dairy scullery and replaced with electric steam raiser. Other minor improvements effected to dairy scullery. |
| 10. Dryden, Ashkirk | Milkroom and dairy scullery re-roofed. |
| 11. Fauldshope,
Selkirk. | One single sided byre extended to make it double sided. |
| 12. Netherbarns,
Galashiels. | One byre improved. |
| 13. Broomhill,
Selkirk. | New milkroom and dairy scullery provided. |

As already stated the methods of milk production are, on the whole, good but could be improved in some instances. To this end producers, where necessary, are being advised to instal two wash-up sinks in their sculleries to facilitate the washing of utensils, to regularly use a strip cup before each cow is milked and to provide carrying pails with lids. They are also being advised to instal chilled water coolers so as to ensure that the milk is properly and efficiently cooled.

Premises at which milk is Pasteurised

The dairy premises where milk is pasteurised was the subject of regular visits throughout the year. On all occasions the premises were exceptionally clean and the plant and equipment used to pasteurise and handle the milk were noted to be in good condition.

A new A.P.V. plant has been delivered and the work of installing it should be completed early in 1957 when the opportunity will also be taken to carry out a certain amount of re-arrangement of the remaining equipment. In addition, the capacity of the refrigeration plant is to be increased by a third compressor.

With the present "through-put" of milk, some 6,000 gallons per day, rising to 6,800 gallons at peak periods, I have been of the opinion for some time now, that a can washer is warranted and I have taken this matter up with the firm's head office, so far, unfortunately, with not very satisfactory results.

"Milk-in-Schools" Scheme

As from 16th May all 21 schools in the County were supplied with "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)" milk. Prior to this the milk supplied, also by a single contractor, was "Tuberculin Tested."

It was estimated that approximately 81 per cent. of all pupils attending the schools availed themselves of the scheme which, to the best of my knowledge, operated in the County without giving any cause for complaint.

Scottish Milk Testing Scheme

The only distributor of any size does not operate the scheme. They have recently, however, obtained the necessary apparatus for butter fat testing and test each of their suppliers' milk weekly.

Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Order, 1934

The terms of this Order are being complied with by most producers.

Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949

The Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (Scotland) Order, 1955

No difficulties were experienced in operating the provisions of the above Act.

The single producer retailer mentioned in last year's report gave up dairying early in the year and before the County Council had finally considered the suspension or revocation of the Dealer's "Pasteurised" licence with which he had been issued several months previously.

Milk Sampling

A.—Chemical Analysis of Samples

Undernoted is a summary of the results of the 61 samples of milk taken and submitted for chemical analysis—

Samples taken	61
Number "Genuine"	59
Number "Non-Genuine"	2
Average Fat per cent.	3.55
Average S.N.F. per cent.	8.73
Fat Content	No. of Samples
4.00%	8
3.75-4.00%	9
3.50-3.75%	13
3.00-3.50%	29
3.00%	2

B.—Bacteriological Examination of Designated Milk from Producers' Premises

The undernoted table gives details of samples taken at producers' premises and submitted for bacteriological examination—

Designation	No. of Samples		% Failing	Average No. taken per year
	Taken	Failing		
Tuberculin Tested	129(a)	11(b)	9.5	7.2(c)

Notes.—(a) including 13 repeat samples.

(b) 8 producers had no failures during the year.

(c) this compares favourably with the figure of 5.1 quoted in last year's report.

C.—Pasteurised Milk

25 samples were taken of which only one failed to comply with the statutory requirements. This compares most favourably with last year when, of 18 samples taken, four failed on one or both counts.

D.—Schools Milk

Results of the samples of schools milk submitted for analyses are summarised as follows—

Designation	No. of Samples			% of Failures
	Taken	Complied	Failed	
Tuberculin Tested	8	8	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	14	12	2	14·3

E.—Non-Designated Milk

Although there is no legal biological standard with which non-designated milk must comply 15 samples were taken from the three non-designated premises in the County and subjected to the same tests as “Tuberculin Tested” milk and, of these, only one failed.

F.—Biological Testing for Tuberculosis

Seven samples of designated and one sample of non-designated milk were taken and submitted for guinea-pig inoculations. All samples proved to be negative.

Food Hygiene

Inspection of Premises

The majority of food premises were visited on one or more occasions and the more serious malpractices brought to the notice of those persons best able to have them discontinued.

Pending the Food Hygiene Regulations coming into operation, however, and providing, at the least, a “code of practice,” little attempt has been made to induce food manufacturers to carry out major structural alterations to their premises.

Clean Food Campaign

The Clean Food Campaign referred to earlier in this report had, as its basis, the display of the Department of Health’s “Clean Food” exhibits including (a) four units contrasting conditions in a “good” and “bad” shop and in a “good” and “bad” restaurant kitchen; (b) three stands with photographs of good and bad hygienic practices and (c) a food stand with placards, and I must say the Department was extremely fortunate

in obtaining the whole-hearted support and co-operation of the South-East Division of the Scottish Gas Board who, through their Area Manager, Mr Wood, not only afforded us, free-of-charge, the full use of the Division's showrooms in Selkirk and Galashiels, but also very kindly arranged for the packing and unpacking of the exhibits as well as their transportation from one centre to the other. As a final courtesy the Board provided tea at the opening ceremonies, which were performed by Provost G. Lindsay Grant and Bailie G. E. Roberts at Galashiels and Selkirk respectively, before invited audiences of members of the food trades and affiliated organisations. At Galashiels, too, we were delighted to have Mr Allan Ritchie, M.B.E., Food Hygiene Officer to the Department of Health as a member of the platform party and, indeed, throughout the series of exhibitions, Mr Ritchie afforded me the very greatest support for which I now place on record my indebtedness.

Notwithstanding the rather inclement weather which prevailed at the time, I think it fair to say that the exhibitions were reasonably well attended, especially at Galashiels, and I feel sure that the publicity they received as a result of advertisements and articles appearing from time to time in the local press helped them to fulfil their main purpose and warranted the not inconsiderable time which had to be devoted to their organisation.

If the exhibitions did nothing else they undoubtedly stimulated the interest in food hygiene of some secondary school pupils, who through the courtesy of the Director of Education and their respective Headmasters, were afforded every facility to attend and subsequently took part in a competition run in conjunction therewith.

The majority of the completed entry forms were of a high standard and after a rather difficult task book tokens were awarded to the following pupils—

Age Group

Under 12 years—Doreen Emond, Primary 5, Ladhope School.

12-13 „ John Hannay, Class IB, Galashiels Academy.

13-14 „ Catherine Johnston, Class IIA, Galashiels Academy.

15-16 „ Evelyn Turnbull, Class IVB, Galashiels Academy

A proposal to give a show of technical films to pre-formed audiences with the support of the Scottish Council for Health Education, who kindly agreed to loan the necessary films, had to be cancelled because of the difficulty of obtaining a 16 mm. sound projector. I hope, however, that it might be possible to give these shows in the near future.

Unsound Food

Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897—Section 43

The Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956—Sections 8-11

No food was seized as being unsound and unfit for human consumption.

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928

Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956

The undernoted formal and informal samples were taken—

Articles Sampled	No. of Samples			No. of Non-Genuine Samples		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Sweet Milk ..	11	50	61	—	2	2
Mince ..	12	—	12	4	—	4
Sausages	4	1	5	1	—	1
Whisky	18	—	18	—	—	—
Ice Cream	—	18	18	—	—	—
Cream	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sugar	—	1	1	—	—	—
White Pepper	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cheese Spread	—	1	1	—	—	—
Coffee Essence	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lemonade Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
Rice	—	2	2	—	—	—
Artificial Cream						
Doughnut ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sugar Mouse	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lollipop	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ice Lollies	—	2	2	—	—	—
Artificial Cream						
Snowball ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Picallili ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Chutney ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mustard ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lard ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Barley ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Aspros ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Totals ..	45	89	134	5	2	7

Action, as undernoted, was taken in respect of the 5 formal and 2 informal samples reported upon by the Analyst as non-genuine—

Official No.	Article	Formal or Informal	Action taken
28/56	Mince	Formal	Cautionary letter from County Clerk to vendor.
53/56	Mince	Formal	Cautionary letter from County Clerk to vendor.
102/56	Mince	Formal	Cautionary letter from County Clerk to vendor.
104/56	Mince	Formal	Cautionary letter from County Clerk to vendor.
43/56	Sweet Milk	Formal	Formal sample taken at point of production in Roxburghshire. Result—Genuine.
45/56	Sweet Milk	Formal	Formal sample taken at point of production in Roxburghshire. Result—Genuine.
103/56	Sausages	Formal	Cautionary letter from County Clerk to vendor.

Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations (Scotland) 1928-53

Of the 21 formal and 1 informal samples of mince and sausages taken during the year, 4 formal samples of mince and 1 formal sample of sausages were found to contain excessive amounts of preservative (SO_2). In each case the vendors received a cautionary letter from the County Clerk.

The Defence (Sale of Food) Regulations, 1943

The Labelling of Food Orders

No contraventions of the above Orders were noted.

Slaughterhouses Act, 1954

There are no private slaughterhouses or public abattoirs in the landward area.

Meat Inspection

As from 10th December the duties of Detention Officer at Galashiels slaughterhouse were carried out by a member of my staff and, as the Burgh, under whose administrative control the slaughterhouse remains, have no specific days and hours for slaughtering, the officer had to attend at times outwith his normal working hours. This arrangement is likely to continue, and I am of opinion, in the circumstances, that consideration will have to be given to the payment of an additional remuneration.

A number of improvements have been effected at the slaughterhouse and several more are envisaged. That Galashiels Town Council, however, are reluctant to incur heavy expense in connection with their premises in the absence of any guarantee from the Central Authority as to their future use is fully understood.

Slaughter of Animals (Scotland) Acts, 1928-54

No applications for slaughterers' licences were received.

The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (Scotland) Regulations, 1955

No contraventions of the above Regulations were obvious in the course of regular visits to Galashiels slaughterhouse.

Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) (Scotland) Act, 1951

No samples of sewage effluents were taken by the Tweed River Purification Board Inspector, but his advice was sought on a number of matters pertaining to the pollution of watercourses.

The action taken in respect of the discharge of untreated sewage into a tributary of the River Tweed is referred to at the beginning of this report under Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

